[*Transalation*]

Telephone System In Jaunpur, U.P.

2882. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephone system in district Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh is functioning properly;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and the extent to which the working capacity of telephone exchange is being utilised;

(c) the number of complaints received regarding working of telephone system during the last two years; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the functioning of the telephone system there?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. The utilisation of exchange capacity is 91%.

(c) Written complaints regarding working of the telephone system for 1989 and 1990 were 5 and 7 respectively.

(d) It has been planned to replace the existing Electro Mechanical Exchange by an Electronic Exchange (C-DOT type) during 1992-93.

[*English*]

Theft of Electricity

2883. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons/factories floor mills/ chakkis in Delhi booked for theft of electricity and drawing more power than sanctioned during the last 12 months;

(b) if so, the action taken against them; and

(c) the steps taken to check such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). DESU has booked 917 cases of theft of electricity, besides detection of 150 cases of drawing more power than sanctioned by different categories of consumers, during the period December, 1990 to November, 1991. In all cases of theft of electricity, FIRs have been lodged with the Police under the provisions of Indian Electricity Act, 1910. Bills have also been raised against such consumers for recovery of charges. Surcharge/higher tariff is levied as per prescribed tariff schedule in the case of excess load violations by the industrial consumers. DESU has intensified its drive against theft-misuse of power including load violations by the consumers.

Gas-Based Power Project In Madhya Pradesh

2884. SHRI SHRVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Gas-based power project proposed to be fed from HBJ pipeline passing through Madhya Pradesh has since been cleared by the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-

CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No proposal for setting up of a gas-based power project envisaging utilisation of gas from HBJ pipeline in the State of Madhya Pradesh has been given clearance by the Central Electricity Authority.

(b) Does not arise.

Losses by Electricity Boards

2885. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study conducted by P.H.D. Chamber of Commerce and Industry has revealed that overall percentage of losses between 1981 and 1989 suffered by nine Electricity Boards had increased despite frequent hikes in tariffs;

(b) the main causes of such losses; and

(c) the steps suggested to avert such losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the study, the main causes of losses relate to management of:

(1) Human resources sphere;

(2) Accounts, Finance and Commercial sphere;

(3) Technical sphere covering, generation, transmission and distribution systems.

(c) No steps fo. averting such losses have been suggested in the reporot which is said to be the first part of the study.

[*Translation*]

Operation of Cable TV Network

2886. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5615 on September 4, 1991 and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Establishment of Cable TV Networks in the country is governed by Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and Rules made thereunder, administered by the Ministry of Communications. As per this Act and Rules made thereunder, no permission is required to set up a Cable TV network within private premises. According to the information received from the Ministry of Communications, no license for Cable TV network including permission to lay cable for TV networks are being issued by them. The details of such networks operating in the country including those set-up by foreign companies are, therefore, not available with the Goverment.

Arrears of DESU with Commercial Firms and Industries

2887. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of commercial firms/